

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re: Application of:
Paul David Metcalfe

Serial No.: 09/381,508

Confirmation No.: 4047

Filed: September 21, 1999

**For: Expandable Slotted Tubing
String And Method For
Connecting Such a Tubing
String**

Group Art Unit: 3679

Examiner: David Bochna

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE
TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the fax number indicated by the Examiner, namely, fax number 703-872-9326 to the attention of the named Examiner, on the date below.

MARCH 18, 2003
Date


Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 30, 2002

In response to the Office Action dated December 30, 2002, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 30, 2003, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes no fees are due in connection with this submission, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0076/WBP, for any fees necessary to make the submission of this response timely and acceptable to the Office.